

2013 Consumer Confidence Report

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POSTED

Water System Name: Sierra City Water Works, Inc Report Date: June 30, 2014

#4600056

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal Regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the periods of January 1-December 31, 2013.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien

Type of water source(s) in use: One Spring.

Name & location of source (s): Spring #1 located in Sierra City

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: A Source Water Assessment was conducted in 2001, and it was determined that the source is most vulnerable to historic mining operations (100 years ago) not associated with any detected contaminants.

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: Quarterly at our office location 732 Butler Street, Grass Valley, California 95945

For more information, contact: Charles K. Smith - Owner Phone: (530) 273-6447

**TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCLs levels.

ND: not detectable at test limit

ppm: part per million or milligram per liter (mg/L)

**Public Health Goal (PHG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MCLGs are set by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

**Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment of other requirements which a water system must follow.

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal and human activity.

Contaminants that may present in source water include:

\* Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

\* Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or results from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming

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Pesticides and herbicides which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential use.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproduct of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. (Gold) 126 YEAR AGO

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the state Department of Health Services (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits of contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The department requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality are more than one year old.

TABLE 1- SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants (to be completed only if there was a detection of bacteria)	Highest No. of detections	No. Of months in violations.	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria (in a month)	1	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform or E.coli (in the year)	0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or E.coli	0	Human and animal fecal waste.

TABLE 2- SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper (to be completed only if there was a detection of lead or copper in the last sample set)	No. Of samples collected	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile level detected	No. Sites exceeding AL	AL	MCLG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) 2005	5	4.0	0	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems, discharges from industrial manufacturing erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 2005	5	0.065	0	1.3	0.17	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives.

TABLE 3- SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	4/30/09	1.7		none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water
Hardness (ppm)	4/30/09	51		none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water

A violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided on the next page.

### **Additional General Information On Drinking Water**

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amount of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline ( 1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infections by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline ( 1-800-426-4791).

**NOTE:**

All test requirements by DPH over the years have been excellent.  
Please contact California Department of Public Health Services for further information.

Charles K. Smith

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